

Lesson Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Lesson ID: 62437-36345

Title: INTERVIEW WITH CAPT SCRIGNOILI, JOINT PUBLIC AFFAIRS, (SHOW OF FORCE)

Operation/Exercise Name: GARDEN PLOT

Observed: 01 May 1992

Originator: MCCDC WF13

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5. (U) OBSERVATION:

The action was a show of force demonstration. The ATF was to reestablish order and to deter continued civil disobedience.

6. (U) DISCUSSION:

There was no specific guidance to ground unit that force was to not be used in attaining the ATF objective. It was understood the mission objective would be attained by a show of force and minimal loss of life or injury to civilians. To attain this objective, Marine ground units attempted to demonstrate its capabilities and to express its willingness to use those capabilities. The Marine Corps was there to take back the streets. The media was used to publicize this capability. The media was allowed into the area of operation and was allowed to witness Marine Corps activities. The media reported of a Marine Corps task force determined to restore order and of a unit fully capable of meeting any challenge. This strategy was very effective.

7. (U) LESSON LEARNED:

Public Affairs and use of the media is effective where a show of force, presence, deterrence, and other similar objectives is required.

8. (U) RECOMMENDED ACTION:

In future civil disorder missions, where show of force is the objective, Marine Corps units should deploy Public Affairs assets to maximize task force visibility and to inform the public of unit capabilities.

9. (U) COMMENTS:

NONE

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